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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Docket Number (Optional) PRE-APPEAL BRIEF REQUEST FOR REVIEW 20028-7004 Application Number Filed 10/812,295-Conf. March 29, 2004 #1807 First Named Inventor Sutherland C. Ellwood, Jr. Art Unit Examiner 2871 T. L. Rude Applicant requests review of the final rejection in the above-identified application. No amendments are being filed with this request. This request is being filed with a notice of appeal. The review is requested for the reason(s) stated on the attached sheet(s). Note: No more than five (5) pages may be provided. I am the applicant /inventor. /Michael E. Woods/ Signature assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) Michael E. Woods is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96) Typed or printed name attorney or agent of record. 33,466 Registration number (408) 490-4692 Telephone number attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34. August 23, 2007 Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34. Date NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: 23 August 2007 Electronic Signature for Michael E. Woods: /Michael E. Woods/

forms are submitted.

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REASONS FOR REVIEW: Pre-Appeal Brief Request

- 1. The rejection is improper in that it mischaracterizes the primary reference (DILLON US Patent 5,031,983) as teaching a modulator for all claim rejections. DILLON unambiguously teaches isolator ONLY this device cannot have variable attenuation.
- 2. The rejection is improper for combining DILLON and BISCHEL (US Patent 6,078,704). DILLON is a magneto-optic Faraday based isolator for COMMUNICATIONS systems that depends upon a polarization angle within a waveguide to set an output while BISCHEL is a DISPLAY technology that teaches an electro-optic based display system that uses variable indices of refraction to transversely extract a picture element component.
- 3. The rejection is not clear how the two disparate systems of DILLON and BISCHEL may be combined (assuming it is proper to combine them) and how specifically the combined references matches the express claim limitations.
- 4. The rejection of original claims 19–36 improperly uses a new grounds of rejection without providing applicant with an opportunity for a new response.